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Thursday, September 13, 2018 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

'A SIMPLE FAVOR'

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NO ACCESS

To keep out illegal drugs, Pennsylvania prisons are instituting new rules limiting inmate access to mail and donations, drawing criticism. 6-7

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5 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

One thing most people can understand is the value to people serving time in prison of getting a letter or piece of mail from a loved one, of holding the letter they wrote and whatever photos or memorabilia they included. But to cut down on rampant drug smuggling into Pennsylvania state prisons, the Department of Corrections has instituted a new policy that will forever cut off inmates from actually handling their own mail. New rules say that non-legal mail must go through a processing company and inmates can only get photocopies, while books may only be obtained through the DOC, not mailed to inmates. Some activists say this will make prison even harder. Read more inside and on **metrophilly.us.**

MICHELLE OBAMA ANNOUNCES STADIUM TOUR

1 Michelle Obama announced a 10-city U.S. stadium tour on Wednesday to support her upcoming memoir, "Becoming," that will feature what organizers called "intimate and honest conversations" with audiences. The former first lady will kick off the tour in her Chicago hometown on Nov. 13, the day "Becoming" is released in the U.S. and in 28 languages around the world. Event promoters Live Nation said the tour would also take Obama to Los Angeles, Boston, Dallas, New York and other cities and stadiums with seating capacities of up to 23,000 that are also used for concerts by some of music's biggest acts. "I've spent the last year and a half reflecting on my story as deeply and honestly as I could, and now I'm thrilled to travel the country and do the same with readers this fall," Obama said in a statement. In a message and video on her Facebook page, she described the book as "the story of my humdrum plainness, my tiny victories, my lasting bruises, my ordinary hopes and worries." Obama and Live Nation will donate 10 percent of every show's tickets to local charities, schools, and community groups in each city the tour visits.

DIMON BACKTRACKS ON DEFEATING TRUMP

2 Jamie Dimon, CEO of JPMorgan Chase & Co., quickly backtracked on Wednesday morning from having said he could beat President Donald Trump in a campaign but not liberal Democrats. "I should not have said it. I'm not running for president," Dimon said in a written statement released within an hour of his original comments. Dimon said his original remark "proves I wouldn't make a good politician. I get frustrated because I want all sides to come together to help solve big problems." Dimon, at an event promoting a $500 million JPMorgan investment in cities, first said, "I think I could beat Trump ... because I'm as tough as he is, I'm smarter than he is," according to CNBC, adding: "I can't beat the liberal side of the Democratic party." "And by the way this wealthy New Yorker actually earned his money," Dimon added. "It wasn't a gift from Daddy." Dimon, 62, has said publicly in the past he will not run for president and does not have the temperament for the job. He said in January he expects to be chief executive officer of the bank for about five years.

APPLE UNVEILS BIGGER IPHONES AT HIGHER PRICES

3 An Apple iPhone Xs Max (R) and iPhone Xs rest on a table during a launch event on Wednesday in Cupertino, Calif. The new iPhones unveiled Wednesday offer Apple a chance for fresh momentum in a sputtering smartphone market as the California tech giant moves into new products and services to diversify. Apple was expected to introduce three new iPhone models at its media event at its Cupertino campus, notably seeking to strengthen its position in the premium smartphone market a year after launching its $1,000 iPhone.

NOAH BERGER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

'60 MINUTES' PRODUCER FIRED FOR BULLYING TEXT

4 The executive producer of the CBS television program "60 Minutes," Jeff Fager, is leaving CBS News, according to a company memo on Wednesday, amid reports of inappropriate behavior. The two-paragraph internal memo from CBS News president David Rhodes, which was seen by Reuters, said that Fager's departure "is not directly related to the allegations surfaced in press reports, which continue to be investigated independently." CBS Corp Chief Executive Officer Leslie Moonves resigned on Sunday amid a new wave of allegations against him of sexual assault and harassment uncovered in two New Yorker stories in the past two months. In the New Yorker report, Fager is accused of inappropriate touching and of tolerating an abusive culture. CBS said on Monday that it would pay $120 million to former Chief Executive Officer Leslie Moonves if an internal investigation into allegations of harassment fails to provide grounds for his dismissal. Rhodes said Fager violated company policy but did not specify the policy.

ROBIN WILLIAMS' GOLDEN GLOBES UP FOR AUCTION

5 Four Golden Globe awards won by Robin Williams are going up for auction next month, along with the late actor's collection of movie props, watches, toys and art. A prop dagger that the comedian used on the set of his 1991 movie "Hook" and battery-powered t-shirt that he wore to the 2000 Academy Awards for a performance of "Blame Canada" are also included in the sale at Sotheby's in New York on Oct. 4. "We're incredibly excited about the watch that Robin Williams wore during 'Dead Poets Society,'" Nina del Rio, Sotheby's vice chairman, told Reuters Television at a public exhibition ahead of the sale. The gold-plated Hamilton wristwatch, engraved on the back after filming in 1988, is expected to fetch up to $2,000. The items, including works by modern artists Banksy and Shephard Fairey, were collected by Williams and his second wife Marsha Garces Williams over 20 years. Williams died by suicide in 2014 at age 63. The auction includes the actor's Golden Globe statuettes for "Good Morning Vietnam" (with an estimate of $15,000-20,000), "Mrs. Doubtfire," "Mork & Mindy" and "The Fisher King."

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‘Pulse’ awakens at Dilworth Park

The new public art installation tracking transit under Center City brought 4-foot-tall clouds of green mist to Dilworth.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

The first phase of "Pulse," a new public art installation under Dilworth Park, was activated Wednesday night. COURTESY OF CENTER CITY DISTRICT

The newest addition to Center City's visual offerings comes from under the ground. "Pulse," a long-promised public art installation of lights tracking city transit as it passes under Dilworth Park, activated its first component on Wednesday night.

A four-foot-tall cloud of green mist lit up for the first time as a SEPTA trolley rolled past underneath Dilworth Park, as a new piece of public art was activated on Wednesday night. It's the first of three colored lines of light, including blue for the Market-Frankford Line and orange for the Broad Street Line, which will ultimately create what sculptor Janet Echelman has called "a living x-ray of the city's circulatory system."

"As SEPTA trains pass under Dilworth Park, 4-foot-tall curtains of colorful atomized mist travel across the park fountain's surface following the transit lines that carry passengers directly below," the Center City District described.

$55M

The $55 million rebirth of Dilworth Park has been a smash hit with the public, attracting some 10 million visitors in 2017 alone.

The green line was activated thanks to a grant from the William Penn Foundation for $325,000 to the Center City District.

The "Pulse" project was originally set to open in 2014 when the vastly revamped Dilworth Park was unveiled.

The $55 million rebirth of Dilworth Park has been a smash hit with the public, attracting some 10 million visitors in 2017 alone. The park's 11,060-foot fountain, a perennially popular destination in the middle of Dilworth for children, had infrastructure for "Pulse" embedded in it during the original renovation.

But funding to activate "Pulse" took longer to find, despite a $20,000 gift from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2017.

In a previous interview with Metro, Echelman noted that complicated projects like this one can take years to complete — and the staggered approach may provide useful lessons to builders.

"It's not uncommon for projects of this scale and complexity ... since no one has built an artwork like 'Pulse' in a public park, doing it one step at a time can actually help contractors gain practical experience and potentially lower installation costs for later phases," Echelman previously told Metro. "Initiating Phase One will take this project from rendering and digital animations to a living, breathing artwork"

"Initiating Phase One will take this project from rendering and digital animations to a living, breathing artwork."
Janet Echelman, sculptor

Center City District is actively seeking funding to activate the Broad Street and Market-Frankford line components.

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CENTREXION THERAPEUTICS

DOC implements new rules to curb prison drug smuggling, critics object

The recent mass sickening of guards and inmates has led to significant new prison rules in the state.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) this week lifted a system-wide prison lockdown put in place after dozens of guards were sickened by exposure to synthetic cannabinoids. Instead of a lockdown, stiffer new prison rules will be put in place, in part to curb the drug smuggling in state prisons that led to some 50 guards and 33 inmates falling ill between May 31 and Sept. 5.

According to the DOC, toxicology and lab tests confirmed in multiple instances that prison staff were exposed to synthetic cannabinoids (known to some as K2, which has had reported severe mental health and even deadly effects for many users). Inmate overdoses during that time were caused by the same drugs, tests found.

Changes include requiring that all non-legal mail be sent to a processing center and cataloged in a database that will be maintained going back seven years. Photocopies of letters or photos will be forwarded to inmates. Originals will be destroyed. Legal mail will be opened by prison staff in front of inmates, photocopies will be given to the inmates, and the originals will be destroyed.

"The reason behind the new policy on publications and mail coming into the DOC system is to shut down major avenues for drug (and other contraband) smuggling into DOC facilities to protect staff and inmates," DOC spokeswoman Amy Worden said via email. She also provided a photograph of a Holy Bible shipped to a prison and found to contain 50 strips of Suboxone in the binding as evidence of the security concerns associated with books mailed into prisons.

But some inmate advocates say the new prison rules go too far, and could raise significant privacy concerns.

"These policies are very

"The reason behind the new policy is to shut down major avenues for drug smuggling into DOC facilities to protect staff and inmates."
Amy Worden, DOC spokeswoman

degrading, very dehumanizing, and they seek only to punish and control," said Sean Damon, a paralegal and organizer at Amistad Law Project, which on Thursday is organizing a call-in to protest the new policies to state leaders. "One of the deep concerns here is, how does this affect the mental health of people who are incarcerated?"

Another change: The DOC will now handle all book orders, effectively ending the work of programs like Books Through Bars, a Philly-based program that sends free, donated books to inmates.

"Books Through Bars tries to undo a small part of the dehumanization that incarceration inflicts by sending free books that help people in prison to pass the time, stay sane, or learn new skills," said Hannah Rich, a volunteer at Books Through Bars, in a statement the group released criticizing the new regulations. "If the restrictions remain in place, we will be unable to send reading material to thousands of people who seek to educate, heal, and transform themselves while incarcerated."

The DOC is advising inmates to purchase ebooks for reading on tablet computers, but BTB volunteers said tablets, at $147 apiece, and ebooks are beyond the financial means of many inmates.

DOC said it plans to strengthen prison libraries, seek out tablets to lend to inmates, and is working out details to continue receiving book donations at a central distribution site where donated books can be received and evaluated before going to inmates.

"There is no intention to limit access to books or publications by inmates," Worden said via email. "The DOC believes that inmates will have greater access to books as libraries are expanded, we introduce e-readers and distribute donated books more widely."

The DOC says all the new prison rules and changes are required for the safety of both inmates and prison staff. The last arrest on DOC grounds for drug smuggling was on Sept. 11, when a 57-year-old father from Maryland visiting his daughter at SCI Muncy was arrested after guards found a small amount of marijuana in his outer garment.

Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association (PSCOA) president Jason Bloom said the new regulations are very much needed, but he will wait to see if they are effective.

"The PSCOA takes the safety of our members very seriously. We are aware that there is a drug problem within the institutions and that we need to have the proper steps in place to eliminate drugs from every institution. Our members have extremely dangerous jobs but should not have to worry about being exposed to toxic drugs which could result in the use of Narcan to save their life," Bloom said in a statement.

Overall, the changes are forecast to cost about $15 million, the DOC said. That includes the first payment of $4 million a year to pay Smart Processing in Florida to evaluate, document, and forward photocopies of all non-legal mail. Other costs include $1.9 million to vet and copy legal mail, and $2.2 million for new drone security. New scanners to check staff and visitors for contraband will cost $4.5 million to bring body scanners to all 25 state prisons, $1.8 million for ion scanners, and $85,000 for printers.

"DOC hopes that over time the cost will be offset by fewer drug searches needed and fewer staff/inmate trips to emergency rooms for evaluation/treatment and less staff overtime in these areas," Worden said.

Gov. Wolf's office did not respond to requests for comment on the new prison rules by press time. But Damon is hopeful that, if public demand builds, the new regulations may be softened or amended.

"These policies are really limiting ways people have been in contact for years and years and years," Damon said. "That feeling of ordering a book for a loved one, sending a handwritten note, that they know their mom, sister, uncle, or a loved one touched, as far as Gov. Wolf and the DOC is concerned, that's something they are just going to be done with, that's a thing of the past."

Changes at PA prisons

All non-legal mail to Pennsylvania DOC inmates must now be sent to: Smart Communications/ PA DOC Inmate Name/ Inmate Number Institution Name, P.O. Box 33028, St. Petersburg, FL 33733

Other changes will include:
- New prison rules and more staffing in visiting rooms (a 90-day moratorium is currently in effect on inmates using vending machines or taking photos; permanent policies are still being evaluated).
- Stricter suspensions for visitors caught introducing contraband.
- Increased drone security, more body and ion scanners.

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Flo to bring a 'Mike Tyson punch to the Carolina coast'

Florence shifts south as Georgia and the Carolinas hunker down.

Fears about Hurricane Florence spread south on Wednesday, with Georgia declaring a state of emergency after officials in the Carolinas urged people to evacuate the coast ahead of the storm's expected pounding winds and rain-driven floods.

Florence weakened slightly to a Category 3 storm on a five-step scale but had maximum sustained winds of 125 miles per hour as of 2 p.m. EDT, down from 130 mph earlier in the day. Its trajectory showed its center most likely to strike the southern coast of North Carolina by late Thursday or early Friday, the National Hurricane Center said.

Updated NHC forecasts showed the storm lingering near the coast of the Carolinas, carrying days of heavy rains that could bring intense inland flooding from South Carolina to Virginia. Parts of North Carolina could get 40 inches of rain.

Jeff Byard of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) invoked a former boxing champion to warn residents that Florence would bring "a Mike Tyson punch to the Carolina coast."

"Heed the warnings," said Byard, adding there was "well over $20 billion" in FEMA's disaster relief fund.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper predicted tens of thousands of homes and businesses would be flooded in his state. Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal, concerned the storm would bring its devastation south, issued an emergency declaration for all 159 counties in his state.

More than one million people have been ordered to evacuate the coastlines of the Carolinas and Virginia while schools and factories were being shuttered.

The NHC said the first tropical storm-force winds of at least 39 mph would hit the region early on Thursday with the storm's center reaching the coast Friday.

Emergency preparations in the area included activating 2,800 National Guard troops in North Carolina, stockpiling food, setting up

"It's going to happen. We just need to figure out how to make it through."
Brad Corpening

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NASA

shelters, switching traffic patterns so that major roads led away from shore, and securing 16 nuclear reactors in the three-state region.

Wilmington, N.C., just north of where the hurricane is expected to come ashore, was sunny around midday on Wednesday as the town appeared to be emptying.

"I'm not approaching Florence from fear or panic," said Brad Corpening, 35, of Wilmington. "It's going to happen. We just need to figure out how to make it through."

Officials in New Hanover County, which includes Wilmington, have stockpiled enough food and water for 60,000 people for four days, along with more than 28,000 tarps. Shelters in the city were filling and some were being bused inland to Raleigh.

"It's going to be bad," said Woody White, chairman of the New Hanover County Commissioners. "But no matter how bad it's going to be, it will pass and our job will be to rebuild this community together, and that's what we're going to do."

Even miles away from the Atlantic, North Carolina residents in low-lying areas are boarding up and emptying stores.

"A lot of our storefronts are boarded up," said Lynn Davis, town manager for Belhaven, which sits at sea level in northeastern North Carolina. "People are taking down awnings and U-Haul trucks have come in and taken the entire contents of stores." REUTERS

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READER WRITE-INS:

CLUELESS USE OF SLANG IN WRITING!

I'm one of few young people who enjoys social media just as much as a good newspaper or magazine. But the one thing I can't stand is writers attempting to merge the two with their misuse of slang. There's literally nothing more cringeworthy than a middle-aged white woman haphazardly inserting the word "woke" into a completely unrelated topic in an attempt to appear relevant. It's like driving over a pothole.

Please just let the teens on Twitter enjoy their slang and get your point across with words that will resonate for years to come.
— **Lauren Noble**, *Metro US reader*

DOGS BELONG IN BARS!

Dogs should definitely be allowed in bars. They bring joy to people who love to pet them and are usually much better behaved than some patrons.

A funny story from when I was younger: My best friend had a dog and sometimes his mom would walk the dog. Well, the dog would literally try to drag her into any bar they passed because we always took the dog drinking with us in the neighborhood bars. Of course this was in the '70s, when most bars would let dogs in.
— J. P., *Metro US reader*

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♈ **Aries** Keep moving forward, regardless of the challenges you face or the people who try to lead you astray. Trust and believe in yourself.

♉ **Taurus** Make changes for the right reasons and build a strong and stable base for your plans. Make partnerships a priority. You can flourish!

♊ **Gemini** Protect your rights. Don't share personal information. Dealing with institutions will be difficult and should not be left for someone else.

♋ **Cancer** Suggestions made will give you a place at the table when negotiations begin. Whether with superiors, family or friends, speak from the heart.

♌ **Leo** Resign yourself to things you have no control over, and keep moving forward. You are best off keeping plans to yourself to avoid interference.

♍ **Virgo** Participate in events that will encourage you to make personal changes. Set high standards and strive to reach your goals. Choose to bring about change.

♎ **Libra** Be cautious when dealing with older family members. Do your best to get along to avoid a misunderstanding. Change can be good if done properly.

♏ **Scorpio** Embrace your feelings and share them with a loved one. Working in unison with someone who has similar goals will enhance chances of success.

♐ **Sagittarius** Go over past mishaps to ensure that something similar doesn't happen again. Listen carefully and question anything that doesn't sound right.

♑ **Capricorn** Consider what you'd rather be doing, and look into new possibilities that will help you fulfill your dreams. It's never too late to start over.

♒ **Aquarius** Take what others say in stride. Everyone is entitled to his or her opinion. Don't get into a debate when your time is better spent getting things done.

♓ **Pisces** Set high standards and strive to reach your goals. Your efforts will bring good results. There is money to be made if you are innovative and willing to try something new. EUGENIA LAST

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Dougray Scott really enjoyed shooting 'Snatch' season 2 in Spain

Don't get the Scottish actor wrong, though. He still loves Manchester.

ANDREW HUSBAND
letters@metro.us

For the majority of its first season, Sony Crackle's television adaptation of the Guy Ritchie film "Snatch" kept Dougray Scott's Vic Hill in prison.

He eventually made it out and, with the help of his partner "Hate 'Em" (Tamer Hassan) and his son Albert (Luke Pasqualino), tried to steal back his gold bullion. Now in its second season, however, "Snatch" sees Vic and company relocating to Spain for a whole new set of cons — a change of scenery that Scott didn't mind at all.

"Manchester is clearly not Spain. The weather is very different, though they do have a fantastic football team" he laughs. "But I do love Málaga. It's such a beautiful city, architecturally. It has an incredible cathedral and some great restaurants. I loved it. It's such a beautiful part of the world."

Of course, shooting the second season of "Snatch" wasn't simply a vacation for Scott and everyone else involved, including "Harry Potter" alum Rupert Grint, whose character Charlie Cavendish frequently partners up with Pasqualino's Albert.

In a previous interview, Scott spoke about serving as a the "father of everyone" on the cast, especially these two. Ten more episodes later, his approach to this particular aspect of Vic remains the same, though with a bit more flourish.

"In many ways, he's also the most childish character on the show," Scott explains. "Vic is insatiable. Give him an inch and he'll take a mile. If there's any situation to be exploited, he'll exploit it.

If there's any shenanigans to be had, he'll be having them. Vic just can't help himself. He's a fox. He's running chickens and he's going to attack them. He was brought up in that kind of environment, where if he sees an opportunity, he will take it. He's never going to change.

"So he is kind of a father figure," he adds, "but in other ways, his son provides a calming and sensible voice. They're all trying to go straight, but Vic has no intention of going straight. He just can't."

Sure enough, Vic proves to be as instrumental as he is detrimental to many of the plans that Albert, Charlie and Lotti Mott (Phoebe Dynevor) try to enact. Much of this has to do with the character as described by Scott, but it also has to do with his better half, Harry (Hassan). The pair are practically inseparable, and more often than not, they engineer some of the series' best hijinks.

All 10 episodes of "Snatch" season 2 begin streaming Thursday on Sony Crackle.

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The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
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1A130 Gwendolyn M Martin; 1A47 Elizabeth Mcnair; 1A67 George Clary; 2A105 Brianna Stow; 2A114 Dorothy Harmon; 2A117 Michelle Lyons; 2A180 Devin Cutting; 2A241 Alonza Stevens; 2A245 Matthew Sierra; 2A255 Cherone Newkirk; 2A258 Todd Brister; 2A41 Robert Johnson; 2A43 Steven D White; 2A75 Denise Skinner; 2A89 Wilma Alston; 2B12 Elisha Roberson; 2B15 Leonard A Pierce; 2B29 Jennifer Graham; 2B46 Zoe Monica Speight; 2B55 Denise Skinner; 2B66 Alicia Jackson; 2C41 Sharron Starling; 2C89 George Gossett; 2C73 Mary Harley; 2D17 Gerald Townsell; 2D185 Rhonda Gillard; 2D187 Nathaniel Davenport; 2D220 Billy Flueller; 2D237 Chris Jones; 2D260 Anthony Lewis; 2D263 Demetrius Wiles; 2D45 Justin Robinson; 2D48 Dionne-Etta Mitchell-Watkins; 2D50 Herbert Earl Swain Lowery; 2E02 Rhonda Jones; 2E10 Tesha Mason; 2E44 Kenia Murray; 3A145A Ashley Lang; 3A159 Andre Turpin; 3A167 Ricky Bennett; 3A214 Kellen Mann; 3A219 Craig Jones; 3A22 Yolanda Fergerson; 3A289 Paul Y Velcy; 3A29 Bajatte Richardson; 3A67 Michael Mahan; 3B14 Camilla Curtis; 3B15 Jason Phillips; 3C03 Angela Watkins; 3C05 Nyomi A Easley; 3C07 Hazel Parker; 3C10 Augustine P Cabrera; 3C33 BERNARD SIMPKINS; 3E01 James W Cambell Jr; 3E39 Darrell Reeves; 3E45 Tjania Goodwin; 3L40 True Gospel Baptist Church; 3L44 Anthony Whichard; 3L48 Terence Hamilton; 4A02 Mia Carter; 4A106 Miteeka Cooper; 4A135 Tyhera Barnes; 4A156 Aliya Mumin; 4A166 Assad AbdusShaheed; 4A19 LaToya Barnes; 4A208 Dennis Parker; 4A210 Harold Robinson; 4A211 Rita Anderson; 4A30 Musheerah Jones; 4A36 Keisha Mcleod; 4A85 Sandra Derry; 4A88 James A Goodjoines; 4E117 Stephanie Wilson; 4E118 Erick Vann; 4E176 Vanessa Williams; 4E177 Richard Hack; 4L32 Shannon Nixon

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Paul Feig goes dark, kind of

The writer and director talks us through his new flick, "A Simple Favor."

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

Paul Feig's latest film is a change of pace. Well, sort of.
GETTY IMAGES

It would be easy to just label every Paul Feig film a comedy.

Of course, that's probably because "Bridesmaids," "The Heat," "Spy" and "Ghostbusters" are packed full of genuinely laugh-out-loud moments. But amidst these laughs, Feig insists there "are dark elements" that usually go overlooked because he wants his movies to "be good-natured at the end of the day."

So it makes sense then that Feig would turn his hand to the thriller genre, something he has done with "A Simple Favor," which revolves around Anna Kendrick's Stephanie, a warm and easygoing mommy blogger, and her burgeoning friendship with the dangerous and mysterious Emily, played by Blake Lively, who then suddenly disappears.

"If you look at all my films they are genre films. One of the films I have always wanted to do is a Hitchcockian thriller," Feig tells Metro. "The script was sent to us to produce. We weren't sure if it was a drama or a comedy or a thriller, it was so crazy. I loved the script so much that I immediately wanted to direct it."

"It was always thriller first, then the comedy would come from the extreme of the characters."

But while Feig was more than ready to embrace his dark side, he still believes that he wouldn't have directed the film if it was a "stand thriller."

"It was Anna Kendrick's character, Stephanie, that allowed me in. She is a fish out of water, nerdy mum who is trying to figure out her place in the world. I knew, with her, I could make it funny and true to the thriller genre," says Feig. "All the pieces were here with these characters. I wanted it to be fun and funny, but only if it supported the thriller genre."

"I love thrillers. It is kind of my favorite genre," he adds. "I wanted to make sure that I didn't underserve that. It was always thriller first, then the comedy would come from the extreme of the characters."

Feig also saw an opportunity to implement his cinematic voice within the thriller genre, too, which would help to make "A Simple Favor" unique while harking back to the classics of the genre.

"Ultimately, I just wanted to make it fun. I am a huge fan of the Hitchcock movies. And they are fun. They can get really dark and dangerous, but you laugh a lot," says Feig. "Just look at how quirky and funny his supporting characters [are]. Even the lead characters. Look at Cary Grant in 'North By Northwest.' There's a gravitas to it, but they are light and playful. I wanted to bring that back."

"A Simple Favor" opens in theaters Sept.14.

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Drake + Migos

Touring together as "Aubrey & the Three Migos," the sing-songy Canadian behind 2018's "Scorpion" — the record that busted Spotify's one-day global record with 132.45 million streams — and Atlanta rappers Takeoff, Quavo and Cardi B's husband, Offset, march into Philly. The first night is sold out, but good news: there are tickets available for day 2, and Drizzy and Meek Mil squashed their beef the other night, so expect a visit from Philly's own.
Sept. 15-16, 8 p.m., Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S Broad St. ,$49.50+, wellsfargocenterphilly.com

MUSIC

Dilly Dally and NOBRO

You know what nobody asks, and it's a shame: "What is happening on Canada's weirdo punk rock scene?" Well, here's your answer in two raucous bands opening for L.A.'s own beatnik punk Fidlar.
Sept. 16, 8 p.m. Union Transfer, 1026 Spring Garden St., $25, utphilly.com

Wayne Kramer's MC5

Punk rock wouldn't be political without the foul-mouthed, social-issue-driven rhetoric of Michigan's MC5. Though most of its original membership is deceased, legendary guitarist Wayne Kramer has gathered members of Soundgarden and Fugazi to celebrate the 5's 50th anniversary and to "kick out the jams" once more, in accordance with their most famous song.
Sept. 15, 8 p.m., Union Transfer 1026 Spring Garden St, $35, utphilly.com

COMEDY

Joey Diaz

Cuban-born, North Bergen-raised Joey "Coco" Diaz might look like a tough guy from his roles in "The Longest Yard" and "Spider Man 2," but he's a comic pussycat what from his biweekly podcast "The Church of What's Happening Now" and his appearances on "The Joe Rogan Experience."
Sept. 14, 8 p.m., Parx Casino, The Xcite Center, 2999 Street Rd, Bensalem, $30+, parxcasino.com/xcitecenter

Chad Daniels

As only one of 13 comedians to have appeared on "The Tonight Show with Conan O'Brien" (before Jay Leno kicked him off), the mad, snarky stand-up has continued that relationship with many a star turn on the stages of "CONAN" on TBS.
Sept. 13-16, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., Punch Line Philly, 33 E Laurel St., $22.50+, punchlinephillly.com

Patton Oswalt

Once known for his oddly scatological humor and goofball non sequiturs, Patton Oswalt has become a prince of deeply thoughtful (and still cynically thought provoking) comedy.
Sept. 15. 7 p.m., Parx Casino, The Xcite Center, 2999 Street Rd, Bensalem, $40+, parxcasino.com/xcitecenter

NATURE

Guided Hike and Meditation

The Fairmount Park Conservancy offers walks and deep thoughts as part of its programming, and this three-mile hike features meditation breaks and yoga exercises.
Sept. 15, 10 a.m., starts at Fairmount Park Horticultural Center, 100 N Horticultural Dr., free for members, $10 non-member donation, fairmountpark.ticketleap.com

FAMILY

Hispanic Heritage Month

In a city rich with diverse Latino communities and civic pride, one month's tribute hardly scratches the surface. Though HHM begins Sept. 15, the 34th annual Feria del Barrio (Sept. 23) is a great center point: a food and music-filled collaboration between Taller Puertorriqueño (Taller), Congreso de Latinos Unidos (Congreso), HACE, and Raíces Culturales Latinoamericanas (Raíces).
Sept. 15, various locations

FILM

'Thor: Ragnarok'

You may have witnessed the mighty, muscular Chris Hemsworth as the mythical now-Marvel character already. But have you done so outdoors under a blanket with your friends and family yet?
Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m., Coxe Park, 2134 Cherry St., free, myphillypark.org

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J14 Micheal Dolchan, E112 Tyrone Gentry, 917 Crystal Lucas, 721 Susan M. Joseph, H18 Emmanuel Thompson, 1203 Tina Sonia Williams, 444 Christine Ross, 02 All Pro Installation and Service, D18 Napaye Johnson, E4 Elegant Flooring LLC, F9 Christopher Cannon

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Sebastian Maniscalco is still 'hungry'

The stand-up comic talks working with Martin Scorsese, the evolution of his comedy and more ahead of his trip to Philly.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

The comedian performs in Philly this week. GETTY IMAGES

You can't accuse Sebastian Maniscalco of slacking. After years of doing stand-up comedy in respectable, intimate rooms such as Philly's Helium for 20 years, and opening for pals such as Bill Burr and Andrew Dice Clay, the Chicago-born Maniscalco has jumped into the bigger time, as shown by his inclusion on Forbes' list of the world's highest-paid comedians. Not only does he have a best-selling autobiography ("Stay Hungry"), and a role in 2019's most notorious flick (Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman" for Netflix), but the comedian has been hosting huge runs at the Borgata (10 shows, sold out) followed by an arena tour, staged in the round, that brings him to Philly's Wells Fargo Center on Sept. 13 and Wilkes Barre's F.M. Kirby Center on Sept. 14. Surely his physical signatures — a constant twitch of his feet, a nervous twerk in his hind quarters, wide eyes, big wobbly mouth — and family-oriented jokes will play in the big rooms. He's confident of it.

When we spoke in 2016, you were just dipping a toe into making movies, and writing the book. How did you know that you could bring the vibrancy of your stage act — which is very physical, very attitude-y, very dependent on you pulling faces — to different skill sets?

I get you. That came over time. I wasn't so animated or so physical when I started. Those bits were not so honed as they are now, that was very trial and error. The goal for me, what I wanted was to be as natural with my audience of 3,000 people as I am talking to my family. To get there, you must go through almost a transformation of losing your inhabitations. You don't want to look stupid. It doesn't fit inside of your skin. It doesn't feel right or comfortable. And with that, it takes many many times of being on stage, and just letting go, to develop your stage presence — which is not so very far from who you are as a person, just bigger. Fifteen years into a 20-year career is when I felt more comfortable, especially talking about my family, as opposed to the more observational humor I started with.

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3097 Sharifah Maddox; 3076 Sherwin Raven; Tianna Meadows; 2038 Amber Russell; 2158 Jinhui Wang; 5184 Donisha Gunter; 2115 Lori Arnold; 3143 Samantha Justiniano; 5132B Brittany Lee

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Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: Extra Space Storage, **1553 Grant Ave., Philadelphia PA 19115, 267-453-3415. September 19th, 2018 at 3:15pm**

135 - Terry Mott III, 646 - Nicholas Evans, 118 - Kevin Easterling, 23 - Erica Ellis, 613 - Antonio Benson, 183 - James Reese, 643 - Joseph Lewis, 580 - Jeanette Davis, 75 - Brandi Barksdale, 153 - Robert John Burpee, 128 - Bryce Johnson

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LOCKER ROOM SELF-STORAGE, INC. 215-225-8585

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell the contents of leased spaces to satisfy Extra Space's lien at the location indicated: **6204 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111. September 19, 2018** at **2:30PM**

A103C Corey J. Graham, A107C Sandra Pearson, A136C Edward Barefield, A139C Shanika N. Flippen, B171C Scott Thomas Marenbach, B219C Edsel Gboeh Deshields, C103 Shareeta S. Eubanks, C166C Addie Marie Christopher, C184C Darryl K. Richardson, C194C Darryl K. Richardson, C197C Darryl K. Richardson, C203C Marrietta Costella Spraggans, F135 Delain Alonzo Best, G109 Dallas D. Atkins, G121 Maria M. Fairfox, G123 Myriam Benjamin.

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2050 - Denise Durkin; SB004 - Michael Mazzoli JR; 2144 - Jamyra Perry; 4010 - Angelica Ganier; 5013 - Gary Arlen Smith ESQ; 3148 - Lisa Allen; 4022 - Willian Alves; 3005 - Gillian Divina Dowling

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#34 Hal Greenblatt, #181 Beth Moughan, #362 Sonya A. McDuffie
#425 Frank Pepe Jr., #549 Carl David, #567 Diane Riper

You narrowcast how you came up, and how you exist with your family.
Right. When I began to pinpoint how I grew up, and what my relationships to my family were like, I found audiences gravitating to those shared experiences. People would come in droves. And then they brought their friends, as I was speaking all of their collective languages.

The Scorsese thing. Did he come to you, did you go to him? How did this happen?
I had my eye on "The Irishman" for several years, kept track of it through the grapevine. When casting came around, I told my agent there were parts that I thought that I was right for. We sent in a tape of my stand-up and bits of this independent film, "Cruise," that my manager talked me into, thankfully, as it showed off some acting chops. Scorsese liked what he saw, but not for the role I had gone in for. He wanted me for something else, 'Crazy" Joe Gallo. Now, this figures into what I say in my book: In life, sometimes it might not work out exactly how you like, a bump in the road, and you head down the wrong fork. But you stick to it, stay hungry, never quit because you never know. And that's how I wound up on "The Irishman." I grew up with these guys. I mean, my first day on set, I'm working with [Robert] DeNiro and [Joe] Pesci. You can't write that.

When you got the Joe Gallo role, what dedication did you have to being faithful to who he was? It is Scorsese doing a mob drama, after all.
Absolutely. As soon as I got the part, I was hungry to find out all about him, who knew him, who could give me deep insight as to who this man was. What were his mannerisms — like, he's a smoker, so how did he hold his cigarette? Was he a lefty or righty? When he got out of prison, he started hanging out with Hollywood types. He even started hanging out with David Steinberg, the comedian who directed episodes of "Seinfeld." Steinberg was his best man at Gallo's wedding. I called and had a nice conversation about how well-dressed Gallo became, and how he had a tiger as a pet.

GETTY IMAGES

You talk about this in your act, and in "Stay Hungry," that your first "stage" was the dinner table where you shared funny stories over a meal. Were you learning how to manipulate a story to succeed, to get a better reaction?
I do remember coming home after school and recapping the day, whether it was what happened at recess or lunchtime or in class. All of us did that, sharing our experiences, My father was a hairdresser and he would tell us his stories from the beauty salon. My mother was a secretary, and she told us about what she had encountered at the elementary school where she worked. Growing up in the late '70s and the early '80s, it was common in my neighborhood to sit outside and talk at night before going to bed or watching television. We'd finish dinner and go outside, pull up a couple of lawn chairs, and sit on our driveway. We'd talk late into the evening, just commenting on who would walk by — human behavior, you know — and how the houses looked. All of that is with me every time I plan a joke or hit the stage.

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PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

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This package also includes a complimentary souvenir bag, stocked with a mesh scalloping bag, scallop recipes, and bottled water. After you've cleaned up from your scalloping trip, you'll be treated to a chef-prepared meal from the day's catch (scallops or fish) for lunch or dinner — your choice — served with two sides from West 82° Bar & Grill. Guests also are served breakfast daily from the Plantation's kitchen staff.

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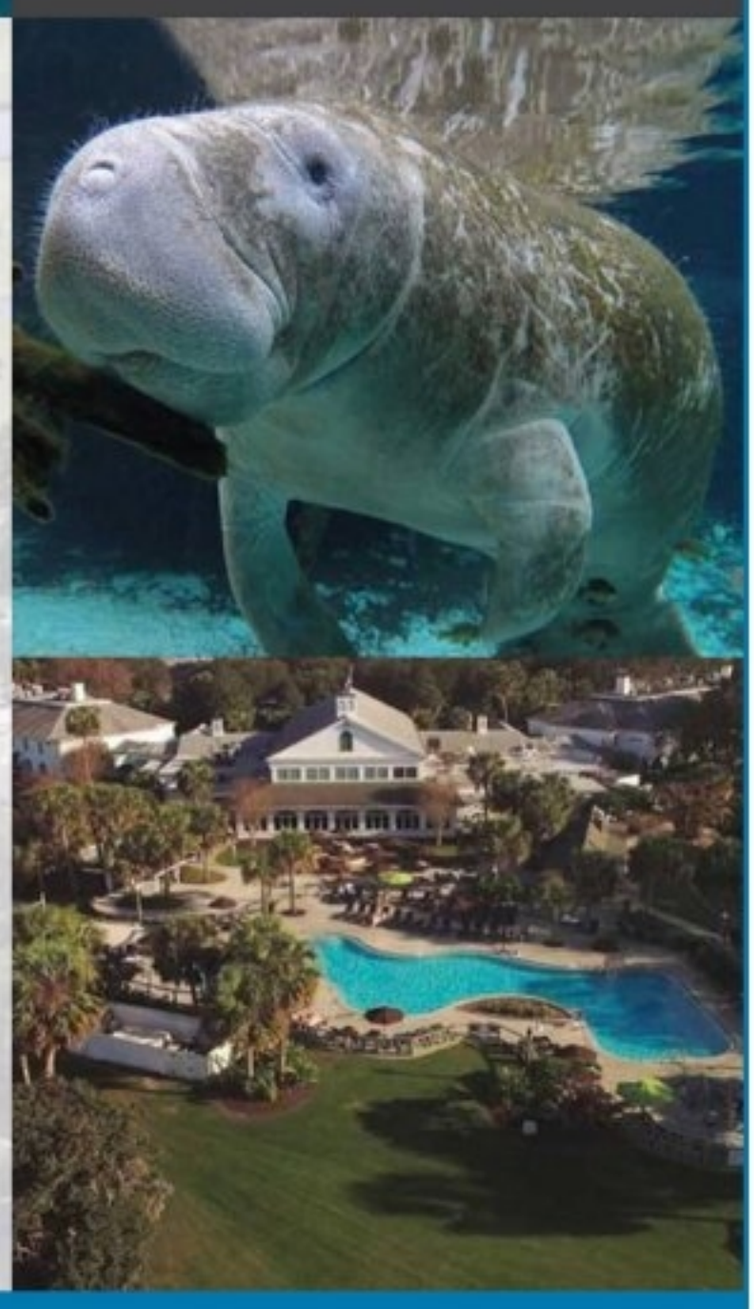

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SPORTS

Jalen Mills and the rest of the Eagles' secondary could have a tough time against the Buccaneers. GETTY IMAGES

Bucs WRs pose challenge for Eagles' secondary

After doing a great job against Julio Jones, the Eagles will now have to face Mike Evans.

JOVAN ALFORD
jovan.alford@metro.us

48

Points scored by the Bucs in Week 1 against the Saints

It was not easy for the Eagles in their Week 1 matchup against the Atlanta Falcons, but thanks to the defense standing tall until the final seconds, they were able to escape with a six-point victory.

The defense came out on a mission from the opening drive, stopping the Falcons on fourth and goal in the first quarter and not allowing wide receiver Julio Jones to score a touchdown.

Speaking of Jones, the Eagles' secondary did an admirable job keeping the All-Pro wide receiver in front of them for most of the game. Despite him having a ridiculous game with 10 receptions (19 targets) for 169 yards, Philly's secondary made sure Atlanta's other wide receivers were not a factor.

Mohamed Sanu was the only other wideout to register a catch in the game (4 receptions for 32 yards). In addition to their defense against Jones, the Eagles secondary also came up with an interception, courtesy of second-year cornerback Rasul Douglas.

However, it does not get easier for the Birds' secondary as they now have the tough task of facing the Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver unit on Sunday.

Unlike the Falcons, the Buccaneers have three explosive wide receivers that can make a game-breaking play at any moment. If you do not believe me just ask the New Orleans Saints' defense, who got torched by veteran quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick and Co.

In last Sunday's shootout against New Orleans, Tampa's No. 1 wide receiver Mike Evans had seven receptions for 147 yards and a touchdown, while former Eagle DeSean Jackson, who is working out of the slot, had five receptions for 146 yards and two touchdowns.

Then there's former Penn State wide receiver Chris Godwin, who added three receptions for 41 yards and a score.

Heading into this road contest, the Eagles understand the challenges that the Buccaneers' trio of wide receivers pose against their defense.

"Yeah, everybody has their own little personality, so to speak, but DeSean Jackson has always been a guy that can take the top off the defense," Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz said.

"We played him in a game two years ago and he made a lot of big plays like that. Took us a while to get adjusted to it. And then you get a guy like Evans, even if he's covered, he can still be open. He's a very physical player. You have to be physical with him."

Physicality helped the Eagles in their matchup against Jones last week and it will be up to cornerbacks Ronald Darby and Jalen Mills to keep that same energy against the 6-foot-5 Evans.

The last time the Eagles saw Evans was back in 2015 when the Buccaneers smoked the Eagles 45-17. None of the current cornerbacks were on that year's team.

Mills is not worried about Tampa Bay, despite their offensive explosion in Week 1.

"At the end of the day, it's not Tampa vs. the Saints," Mills said to reporters. "It's Tampa vs. the Eagles. We're going to go out there and play defense and they have to go out there and play offense."

The Eagles' secondary is pretty confident in their abilities to get the job done and it could get easier for them as Jackson is in the NFL's concussion protocol. If Jackson cannot go, then expect Godwin to see more targets.

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GAMES

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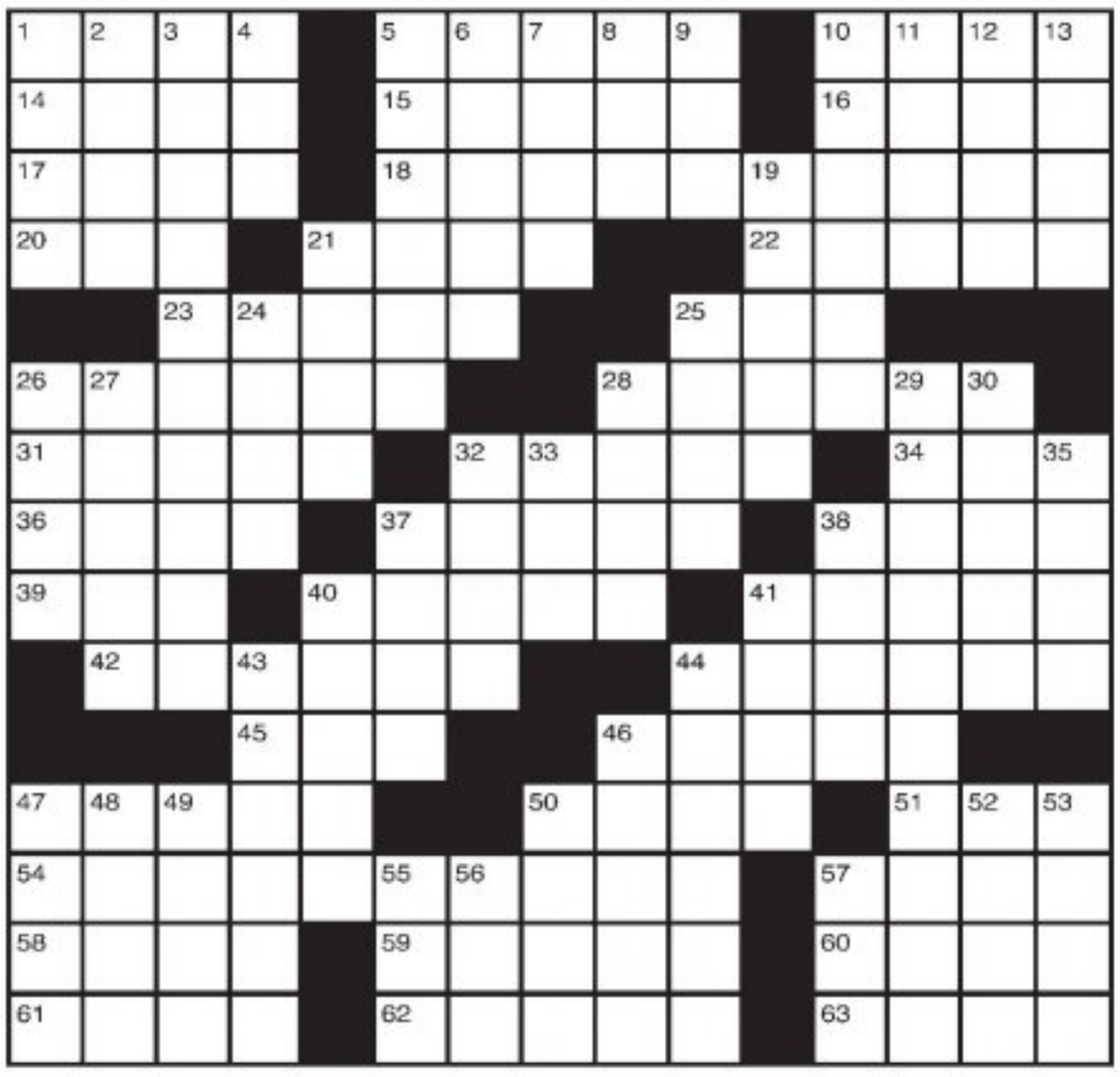

ACROSS

1 Hair color
5 Chef's accessory
10 __ machines; casino attractions
14 Run fast
15 Rigg or Ross
16 __ tree; partridge's place
17 Rainbows
18 Decline in quality
20 Buzzer
21 Abhor
22 Washing machine cycle
23 Peruvian pack animal
25 Swindle
26 Beer mugs
28 Handgun
31 Slipped up
32 Ill will
34 Gamble
36 Peruse
37 Tangy
38 Boring
39 Blind as a __
40 Smell awful
41 Innocent
42 Religious title
44 Edgar or Candice
45 Present topper
46 Winter jacket
47 Tropical tree with chocolaty seeds
50 Transmit
51 Bathroom feature
54 Still single
57 Health nut's lunch
58 Femur or fibula
59 Strainer
60 Cast-__ skillet
61 Sharp tools
62 Tallied up
63 Fluid-filled sac

DOWN

1 Snatch
2 As __ as hen's teeth
3 Speed up
4 Positive reply
5 Gomez __; John Astin TV role
6 Michelangelo sculpture at the Vatican
7 In a __; furious
8 Afternoon hour
9 Fabray, to friends
10 Short race at top speed
11 Thin
12 Quaker product
13 Birch or beech
19 Jagged
21 Palm's place
24 Committed perjury
25 Salt Lake __
26 Many a Bosnian
27 Tire ridge pattern
28 Choose
29 Required
30 Depart
32 Rotate
33 Brooch
35 Now and __; occasionally
37 Stash away
38 Bowwow
40 Move over a bit
41 Bookish fellow
43 Subsides
44 __ together; joined forces
46 Irritate
47 Actor __ Gooding Jr.
48 As strong as __
49 Walking stick
50 Lean-to
52 Eerie sightings, for short
53 Tap a baseball
55 As happy __ clam
56 El __; Spanish hero
57 Small twitch

metro.us/wordsearch

Y	W	S	R	L	C	K	G	Q	H
M	O	U	N	D	S	W	E	E	T
R	Y	O	J	D	N	O	M	L	A
G	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
O	A	P	Y	E	H	S	R	E	H
O	N	W	H	O	P	P	E	R	S
D	D	N	Z	J	R	S	P	Q	G
B	Y	J	E	T	A	K	T	I	K
A	Q	Z	T	P	A	Y	D	A	Y
R	E	E	S	E	S	S	I	K	M

Almond Joy
Candy
Chocolate
Heath
Hershey
Kiss
Kit Kat
Mounds
Mr. Goodbar
PayDay
Penn
Reese's
Sweet
Whoppers
York

metro.us/wander

Category: Music Mixups

		R	D	Y
E	V	I	U	O
M	E	C	R	A
V	O	I	Y	Z
E	L	N		

Trace a path, using every letter once, to find the hidden phrase. Your path can turn in any direction, but not diagonally.

metro.us/sudoku

9					7		8	6
		7	1					5
	1		3					
			8				1	4
		4	6	3	5	2		
5	7				4			
					3		2	
4					9	6		
7	3		2					9

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C	A	S	H			B	R	A	T		S	L	I	M
U	L	C	E	R		R	E	A	R		P	O	L	E
S	P	R	E	E		A	V	A	I	L	A	B	L	E
P	S	I		S	A	G			F	O	R	E	S	T
		P	L	O	T	S			L	A	S			
S	A	T	I	R	E			S	I	N	E	W	S	
A	D	U	L	T		F	R	A	N	S		H	E	N
G	A	R	Y		D	O	I	N	G		F	I	N	E
A	G	E		B	R	A	N	D		H	O	R	S	E
	E	S	T	E	E	M			S	O	I	L	E	D
			H	A	S			D	A	I	L	Y		
A	D	D	E	R	S			U	P	S		B	I	B
B	R	A	S	S	I	E	R	E		T	W	I	C	E
B	A	N	E		N	A	I	L		S	H	R	E	D
E	G	G	S		G	U	M	S			O	D	D	S

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